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RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SKETCH OF ITS HISTORY

WITH

LIST OF PAPERS READ AT ITS STATED MEETINGS.



PROVIDENCE

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY BY SNOW & FARNHAM.

1850.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

ISSN 0000-

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE SOCIETY,

WITH A

Chronological List of Lectures and Papers,

READ AT STATED MEETINGS FROM 1835 to 1889, INCLUSIVE.

(PREPARED BY THE SECRETARY.)

THE origin of the Rhode Island Historical Society, the circumstances which led to its formation, and the aims of its founders, all well understood forty or fifty years ago, were thrown into comparative obscurity by the pressing events of our Civil War. To bring these matters again to view, and thus promote a better understanding of the success of the Society, and also of the duties devolving on its members and citizens of the State, is the object of this paper.

The Society owes its origin to a spirit of inquiry and research manifested long before steps were taken for its formation. The need of such an institution was felt and the way was prepared for it by men who early entered the historic field and labored without the advantages of associate action.

The founders of the State and the men of their day were followed in due time by men who appreciated their work and strove to perpetuate their memory by making a record of what they did. Of the latter class, were notably the Rev. John Callender, Governor Stephen Hopkins, Friend Moses Brown, Senator Theodore Foster and their compeers.

They led the way to a connected and truthful history of the State, and their services are appreciated by their successors in this line of labor.

The Society's records and public journals show that there was, in 1822, a newly-awakened interest in historical pursuits, and that there was then earnest inquiry after authentic documents belonging to various periods of these Plantations. A Revolutionary soldier, who became the second president of this Society, is reported to have spoken as follows :

"From the settlement of the Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, more than a hundred and eighty years ago, valuable historic material has been wasting away year by year without any concerted effort being put forth to save it and use it in the interest of veritable history."

It was stated that through ignorance or other causes some valuable historical records had been converted into pulp for paper, some had been used for kindling fires, and some had been accidentally burned ; and the hope was expressed that the Society might prevent similar losses in time to come, and secure for historical purposes the valuable family, town and State records then in existence.*

* It is a matter of regret that the hope thus expressed has not been realized. Many losses have occurred since that time. Some valuable documents have been destroyed because they were kept in unsafe places; some because their historic value was not understood by those who owned them or had them in charge, and some for other reasons that need not be stated. It is proved that stores, shops, dwelling-houses, and even some buildings called town-houses or town halls, are not fire-proof. The following losses, of which the secretary of this Society has authentic information, are a few of the many that have occurred :

The town records of North Kingstown were injured and narrowly escaped complete destruction from an accidental fire, December 16, 1870. The numerous manuscripts of United States Senator Elisha Mathewson, including autograph letters of Thomas Jefferson and other historic men who lived in the latter part of the last century and in the early part of this,—these, with Mr. Mathewson's library and portraits of himself and wife (partially promised for the archives of this Society) were all destroyed February 6, 1870, together with the house in which they were kept in the town of Scituate. The many exceedingly valuable records of the proprietors of the Providence Plantations, kept in a wooden chest in a paper and twine warehouse, were all reduced to ashes in the Aldrich House fire that occurred February 15, 1888. A large collection of manuscripts left by the late Deputy Governor and Chief Justice Daniel Owen, who presided over the convention that adopted the National Constitution in 1790, were kept in Judge

After deliberation, a meeting was called and held at No. 3, South Main Street, Providence, on the 19th of April, 1822, the time being noted as the anniversary of the skirmishes at Lexington and Concord. Jeremiah Lippitt was elected chairman and William R. Staples secretary of that meeting, and measures were then and there adopted for the formation of this Society and for its incorporation by the General Assembly. On the 29th of the following June a meeting of the corporators* of the Society was held at the old Manufacturers' Hotel (kept then by John Wilde, at No. 65 North Main street, opposite the First Baptist Church). The charter introduced into the General Assem-

Owen's family mansion in Gloucester till about a third of a century ago, when one of his grandsons submitted them to the flames, assigning as a reason for this act that they never had been wanted and probably never would be. Another considerable collection of manuscripts, left by Col. John Singer Dexter, a distinguished officer of the Continental army,—manuscripts, some of which were personal sketches, entitled "Memoranda Concerning the Society of the Cincinnati," of which Colonel Dexter was successively treasurer, secretary, vice-president and president,—were burned by a descendant of Colonel Dexter to get them out of the way. Still another lot of manuscript, left by Captain Daniel Singer Dexter, who, on account of his remarkable skill as a penman served as clerk or secretary for many organizations during and subsequent to the Revolution, were burned a quarter of a century ago by a descendant of his to get possession of a trunk in which they were kept.

But though fire has made sad havoc of historical documents, paper-makers are of late reputed to be more efficient agents of mischief. During the War of the Rebellion the registers of the public schools of Providence, some of them dating back to 1840 and containing records that would have promptly settled more than one legal controversy, were all delivered over to the paper-makers, and thus used up. Among the tons of materials annually sent off from dwelling-houses to pass through junk shops on their way to paper mills, are usually some books, pamphlets or manuscripts which, if saved, would greatly enrich the library of this Society: and to this end an appeal is here made to the public, in the hope of having valuable material rescued from destruction and the interests of history thereby promoted.

Bearing in mind the principle that historical records should not only be preserved, but be put in such order that they can be readily consulted, we give, in illustration of this principle, the following extract from a letter lately written by a gentleman who is deeply interested in this his ancestral State: "The people of Rhode Island should not only guard against the destruction of their early town records, but should have such classified and indexed copies of them made as will render their lessons available to all who wish to be instructed thereby."

* The following are the names of the twelve corporators:—Jeremiah Lippitt, William Aplin, Charles Norris Tebbitts, Walter R. Dauforth, William R. Staples, Richard W. Greene, John Brown Francis, William G. Goddard, Charles F. Tillinghast, Richard J. Arnold, Charles Jackson, William E. Richmond.

bly at its May session and passed in June was received and adopted, and measures were taken to secure a constitution embodying suitable by-laws and rules of action. It was voted at this meeting that the annual election of officers should take place on the anniversary of the granting of the charter of 1663, viz., July 19, corresponding to July 8, old style. Accordingly, on that historic day, in the hotel before named, the first annual officers were elected, the venerable Moses Brown serving as chairman and William R. Staples as secretary, and for twenty-six years the anniversaries of the charter of 1663 and of the establishment of this Society were observed together. The names of the distinguished members enrolled and officers elected from that time down to January, 1888, may be found in the "Proceedings of the Society, 1887-88."

Thus organized, the Society promptly issued a circular, informing the people of the State of the objects it had in view, and inviting them to co-operate in collecting and turning to account such manuscripts, printed works and other material as might serve to illustrate State, family and local history. One of the earliest responses to this appeal was an autobiographical sketch from Col. Christopher Lippitt, of Revolutionary memory, and this was followed by contributions from Moses Brown, Theodore Foster, Henry Bull, John Brown Francis, William Giles Goddard, William Aplin, Zachariah Allen, and other like-minded citizens, who, with their successors down to the present time, merit the honor of having their gifts kept in a safe, commodious and attractive building.

The records show that the Society was early nursed and encouraged by the State, receiving from it \$500 when that sum was more to it than \$5,000 would be to-day. From 1822 to 1834 the Society was the guest of the State, holding its meetings, with the manifest approbation, if not by invitation, of the General Assembly in the Senate chamber, and keeping its collections on one side of that room in cases

furnished gratuitously by the Providence Library Company. In the course of twelve years the Society outgrew its quarters in the Senate chamber, and was cramped for the lack of room for its collections. When this fact became known to Messrs. Brown & Ives they offered the free use of what is termed in the records "a spacious room (their present counting room) in their brick block on South Main street." The Society gratefully accepted the offer. At the end of two years Mr. Cyrus Butler expressed his appreciation of the Society as a conservator of the material interests of the community, and offered it still ampler accommodation in the upper story of the Arcade, which offer it gratefully accepted, and held its meetings and kept its collections in room 53 of that building for the next eight years, when it removed (in 1844) to its present Cabinet; and now, after having occupied this building forty-five years, it finds itself more cramped for room than ever before. With its renewed life and the general interest awakened in historical pursuits, it now painfully realizes its need of means to carry forward the work for which it was organized. In Newport the Society was for a long time generously cared for by the Redwood Library Company.

During the first twenty-seven years of its existence the business of the Society was mainly transacted through the agency of a board of trustees and of its committees. Its early records contain long and elaborate reports and letters, furnishing ample evidence of interest and diligence in collecting material for local history and in preparing for the publication of the first volumes of its "Collections"; but they fail to show that any lectures or papers (other than reports or letters) were given or read before the Society during a period of thirteen years. The first record on this subject was to the effect that the Hon. William Hunter, of Newport, would address the Society at the State House on the 30th of October, 1828, and a subsequent record shows that on Mr. Hunter's failing to appear at the appointed

time, the members consoled themselves therefor by a festive and social entertainment. In 1834 an earnest but unsuccessful effort was made to have lectures that would awaken interest in the objects of the Society and enrich its treasury.

In 1835-36, however, twelve lectures were given in Franklin Hall, the efficient President of the Society, John Howland, presiding on each occasion and reading the first paper. Many of the tickets to these lectures are still preserved, having upon them the printed name of T. H. Webb, secretary, and the clear autograph of T. W. Dorr, treasurer.

In the winter of 1836-37, a second course of lectures, ten in number, was given, President Howland reading the first paper, and introducing the lecturers at the subsequent meetings.

In December, 1837, through the influence of the Society, but without its agency, the Rev. C. W. Upham, then pastor of the church in Salem, from which Roger Williams was driven into exile, gave in Franklin Hall a course of three lectures, entitled "The Life, Adventures and Character of Roger Williams."

Attention is here called to the appended chronological list of lectures and papers read before the Society from 1835 to 1889, inclusive. In making up the first part of this list it has been found necessary to have recourse to the newspapers of the day, and it is not improbable that, owing to omissions in the early records, some papers are omitted that belong on the list.

Long as the list is, it would be much longer but for the adoption of a rule excluding letters, reports, the annual addresses of the presidents of the Society, and many other papers which constitute an important part of the history of the institution. Thus, though the Canonicus Memorial in the North Burial Ground was erected and dedicated under the auspices of the Society on the 21st of Septem-

ber, 1883, the valuable papers that were read on that occasion are not included in the list for the reason that they were not read at a stated meeting of the Society. In like manner many other papers that are referred to in the records, but were not formally read, are omitted: notably, a paper from Gen. Guy M. Fessenden, of Warren, in 1846, on "How Roger Williams Came from Salem to Providence," a paper still preserved in the archives of the Society; one from Judge Alfred Bosworth, which was promised to be read in January, 1858, on "The Annexation, or Re-annexation, of the Eastern Towns of the State"; and also several lectures by Walter R. Danforth, Albert G. Greene and William H. Helme, in Pioneer Hall, South Main street, on the antiquities of Providence and explanatory of the buildings and places noted on the drop-scene of the old Providence Theatre, exhibited in that hall in connection with numerous historic paintings, manuscripts, reliques and memorials of various kinds, during a period of seven successive weeks, beginning on the 7th of September, 1859. The oration pronounced on the site of the Battle of Rhode Island by the President of the Society, the Hon. Samuel G. Arnold, August 28, 1878, is not mentioned, because, though the celebration was inaugurated by the Society, the direction of it was given up to the Veteran Corps Association of the Providence Light Infantry. It is proper to state that in our account of various anniversary and commemorative occasions we have noted on the list only the leading papers read.

To render the list more useful as an index to sources of information some abbreviated references and explanations are introduced:

Thus, the letter *P.*, following the title or subject, indicates that the paper is printed in book or pamphlet form: *Proc.*, that it is printed in the "Proceedings" of the Society: *Coll.*, in the "Collections"; *Jour.*, in the Providence Journal;

MS., that a manuscript copy is in the archives of the Society; and other corresponding abbreviated terms are used.

Information is desired in regard to a good number of the many papers that are on the list, and not in the hands of the Society. Some of these are the result of much research and investigation. Copies are solicited, particularly of those that were read at an early period, and relate to our local history.

The hope is entertained that this list may lead to the production not merely of a list of the books, reports and circulars the Society has issued or been instrumental in bringing out, but of a printed catalogue of the library, with its varied historic and artistic treasures, consisting of colonial, State and town documents, family keepsakes and memorials of the founder and first settlers of the State, the promoters of its industries, and the benefactors of its people.

A catalogue, however, cannot be made till the new building is completed and shelves, cases and walls are provided where the books, pamphlets, paintings and material, of whatever nature, can be placed and securely kept. Such a catalogue, with suitable building accommodations, can hardly fail to promote the usefulness of the library and of the Society, and will furnish evidence that the purpose of the Society, as indicated in the following clause of its charter, has been borne in mind: "Created a body corporate and politic for the purpose of procuring and preserving whatever relates to the topography, antiquities and the national, civil and ecclesiastical history of the State."

The history of the State and of its institutions and distinguished men thus becomes the distinctive object of the Society, as proclaimed by its founders and set forth in its charter. The State, through its General Assembly, early manifested a high appreciation of the Society. It made it the custodian of important documents of various kinds, and established a semi-official relation that has been maintained

to the present time. The Society has thus come, by combined action and effort, to occupy a position of peculiar interest, responsibility and usefulness. It has acquired in the course of three-score and eight years many rare volumes, manuscripts and various historic treasures, which the State, with all its material wealth, can ill afford to lose or disregard. The Society has in its Cabinet the means of determining many titles to real estate and of settling, without litigation, many vexatious local controversies, and many questions of interest to the different towns. By keeping in view ancient land-marks and beacons, while new ones are being made, it affords a means of safety and protection in the guidance of the Ship of State. The Society is doing for the cause of sound learning and popular intelligence a kind of service which our schools and libraries, public and private, however good, cannot render—a kind of service to secure which some of the States of this Union make large annual appropriations.*

* The following letter shows what the State of Wisconsin is doing, and other statements of this kind might readily be adduced:

ROOMS OF
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN,
MADISON.

REUBEN G. THWAITES,
Corresponding Secretary.

2-26, 1890.

Mr. Amos Perry:

DEAR SIR,—I have your note of the 24th. This Society's financial resources are:

GENERAL FUND.	
Annual appropriation from State,	\$5,000 00
From this, we pay our cataloguer \$750, purchase books, pay freight bills and miscellaneous expenses,	

BINDING FUND.	
Raised by gifts, membership dues and sale of duplicates,	
Cash on hand (Dec. 31, 1889.) and out on loan,	\$19,983 08

In addition to this we have bequests, real estate and notes (gifts from members) not yet available, enough to make the fund stand,	\$23,133 08
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ANTIQUARIAN FUND.

Raised in similar manner to Binding Fund.

Cash on hand and on loan,	\$903 08
Notes not yet available,	40 00
	<hr/>
	\$943 08

For about fifteen years the Society has been the custodian of all the bound volumes of newspapers belonging to the State, and for a much longer period of various other documents; and it has extended to every citizen of the State the same right to examine and read these works as is enjoyed by its own members. Its Cabinet is the resort for genealogical and historical purposes of persons from different parts of the State and from different States of the Union, including among the number many descendants of Rhode Island, seeking here information in regard to their ancestors. The Secretary of the Society is, from the force of circumstances, the medium of a considerable correspondence in regard to Rhode Island historical topics—a correspondence which would otherwise devolve on the Secretary of State or not take place. For these and all its varied services, promotive of the moral and material interests of the State, the Society has annually received for about ten years five hundred dollars.

The Society is bound by the letter and spirit of its charter, as well as by its relations to the State, to procure and preserve historic material, and to stimulate and encourage historical inquiries and investigations, with the view of securing the best possible history of the State. But it had better be understood that though the Society is a responsible agent, as stated above, it cannot efficiently carry forward

Our binding fund is steadily growing, though we spend \$850 yearly out of its income. One-half of our membership dues and sale of duplicates goes to this fund and half to the Antiquarian.

In addition to the General Fund the State gives us, by standing appropriation, the salaries of the Secretary, Chief Librarian and First Assistant Librarian. We are also given quarters in the State House, light, fuel, janitors, repairs, postage, stationery and all necessary printing—are, in fact, treated as one of the departments of the State government, except the Society, a non-partisan body, controls its affairs. The Society is by law the trustee of the State, and amenable to the Legislature. Its library is partially the historical and miscellaneous portion of the State Library. The State Library, so called, is in the same building, but has only law books, and is managed by the Supreme Court.

Very truly yours,

REUBEN G. THWAITES.

P. S.—I suppose that we cost the State in the neighborhood of \$12,000 or \$14,000 per year.

its appropriate work unless it have, in addition to its present resources, either a larger annual appropriation from the State, or the income of a large publication and working fund, together with the cordial co-operation and support of intelligent and public-spirited citizens. To bring out such accurate, scholarly and well-illustrated historical work as will reflect credit on the State and promote the intelligence and well-being of its people is an enterprise which, if understood, can hardly fail to be approved and sustained.

As the publications of the Society give some idea of work that has been done, and of the sphere of influence that has been occupied, they are described under the following headings :

A.—Collections. B.—Proceedings. C.—Miscellaneous Papers.

A.—The Collections of the Society comprise seven octavo volumes, whose respective subjects or titles, authors and years of publication are as follows : Vol. I.—A Key into the Language of America, by Roger Williams ; reprinted in 1827 from a manuscript procured by Zachariah Allen from the Bodleian Library in Oxford, Eng., which manuscript was carefully compared with the printed copy of the same work in the possession of the Massachusetts Historical Society. The original was printed in London in 1643.* Vol. II.—Simplicity's Defence against Seven-Headed Policy. By Samuel Gorton. Edited by Wm. R. Staples. 1835. Vol. III.—The Early History of Narragansett. By Elisha R. Potter, Jr. 1835. Vol. IV.—Century Sermon of the Settlement of Newport, in 1739. By Rev. John Callender. Edited by Romeo Elton. 1838. Vol. V.—Annals of Providence, from its Settlement in 1636 till 1832. By Wm. R. Staples. 1843. Vol. VI.—Contents : I. The Invasion of Canada in 1775. II. Revolutionary Cor-

* Coll. R. I. Hist. Soc'y, Vol. I., p. 4.

respondence. III. Morgan Edwards' History of the Baptists in Rhode Island. Edited by Edwin M. Stone. 1867. Vol. VII.—Contents: I. Early Attempts at Rhode Island History, by Stephen Hopkins and Theodore Foster. Edited by William E. Foster. II. The Narragansetts. By Henry C. Dorr. III. Early Votaries of Natural Science in Rhode Island. By Charles W. Parsons. IV. The First Commencement of Brown University. By Reuben A. Guild. V. The British Fleet in Rhode Island. By George C. Mason. VI. Nicholas Easton vs. The City of Newport. By George C. Mason. 1885.

B.—The Proceedings of the Society consist of eighteen octavo pamphlets or unbound volumes, varying in size from 40 to 216 pages. A volume of these Proceedings has been issued in the early part of each year, from 1872 to 1889, inclusive. These publications contain a good number of original papers, new and old; reprints of some rare old documents; much local history; necrological notices of members of the Society who have died since the publication was begun, and a somewhat detailed account of the transactions of the Society during this period.

C.—The Miscellaneous Papers consist of circulars, annual reports, special reports, annual addresses by Presidents of the Society and members of it, and commemorative and anniversary papers given at various times, from 1822 to 1889, inclusive. No chronological or classified list of these papers has yet been made. Most of these papers may, however, be found in the appended list. The last publication of the Society classified as miscellaneous was an octavo volume of 40 pages, issued from the press in October, 1889, entitled "Early Voyages to America," by James Phinney Baxter, A. M. The Society's first publication was an octavo pamphlet of 8 pages, issued from the press soon after the first election of officers on the 19th of July, 1822. This is entitled "The Charter, Constitution and Circular of the Rhode Island Historical Society." It contains the names

of the officers, then just elected, as follows : James Fenner, President ; Henry Bull, Theodore Foster, Vice-Presidents ; William R. Staples, Secretary ; John Brown Francis, Treasurer ; W. R. Staples, Stephen Gould, Cabinet Keepers ; Job Durfee, Albert C. Greene, Samuel Eddy, Richard W. Greene, Philip Crapo, William E. Richmond, Christopher E. Robbins, William G. Goddard, William Aplin, Trustees.

Another circular, that was signed by James Fenner, President, and William R. Staples, Secretary, and addressed to the people of the State, was issued early in September, 1822. The annual reports rendered by the Board of Trustees, July 19, 1836, and July 19, 1839, appeared each as an octavo pamphlet of 8 pages, and since that time annual reports, or summaries of them, have generally been printed in one or more of the journals of the day. Many miscellaneous papers that have been brought out by associate or individual enterprise, appear without the imprint of the Society, though its cordial endorsement of them is in its records. The number of publications classed as miscellaneous is probably half a hundred.

There are noted on the following list 343 different papers, read or written by 164 different persons at 314 different meetings, held in 45 different years, comprised within the period of the 56 years that elapsed from 1835 to 1889, inclusive. About half of the 164 persons who have read papers have read each but one paper. One person read twelve papers, and several persons approximated that number. Some of the many subjects discussed can hardly fail to attract attention. Judge Staples occupied two evenings in discussing before the Society the early laws of Rhode Island, before he printed his essay entitled, "The Code of 1647." Dr. Parsons pursued a similar course in regard to his "Indian Names of Places in Rhode Island." Messrs. Wilkins Updike, David Benedict, George Washington Greene, Samuel Greene Arnold, J. Lewis Diman and others, each read a paper that subsequently appeared as a

chapter in a larger work. The Society's instrumentality in cultivating a taste for historical studies and in encouraging historical inquiry and research is beyond question. Several important works that were begun solely with the view of being read before the Society were subsequently elaborated and published.

The late Joseph J. Cooke, on being invited in 1873 to become a member of the Society, replied that he had read the reports and publications of the Society from boyhood up, and that no institution in the State had exerted so strong an influence on his character as this. He then became a member of the Society. He did something during his life to enrich its library, and had a clause in his will enabling it to come into possession of five thousand dollars' worth of books.

LECTURES AND PAPERS.

1835.

- Nov. 18. John Howland. Personal Recollections and Anecdotes of Revolutionary Scenes and Events.
- Dec. 11. Albert G. Greene. The Intercourse Between the Old and the New World Before the Time of Columbus.
- 16. Prof. Romeo Elton. The History of the Ethical Philosophy of the Greeks.
- 23. Hon. Francis Baylies. The Settlement and Early History of Rhode Island.
- 30. Hon. Tristam Burges, LL. D. An Introduction to an Historic Account of the Mechanic Arts and Manufactures of Rhode Island, with Biographical Notices.

1836.

- Jan. 6. Hon. Job Durfee, LL. D. The Narragansett Indians; Their Nature, Subjugation and Extermination by the Whites.
- 9. Hon. Job Durfee, LL. D. The Narragansetts After the Pequot War. (See Durfee's Works.)

1836.

- Jan. 13. Rev. Charles W. Upham. A Biography of Sir George Downing.
20. Rev. David Benedict, D. D. Religious Sects and Denominations, particularly those of our own State and Country.
27. Hon. Tristam Burges, LL. D. Sketch of Rhode Island Naval and Maritime Affairs.
- Feb. 3. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. The Civil Polity and the Laws that were adopted in this Colony prior to the Charter of 1663.
10. Hon. John Pitman, LL. D. Sketches of Institutions and Events connected with Civil and Religious Liberty.
- Aug. 5. Hon. John Pitman, LL. D. The Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Settlement of Providence (observed conjointly by the Society and the City of Providence).
- Nov. 30. John Howland. Local Reminiscences of the Revolutionary Period.
- Dec. 7. Rev. Thomas Robbins, D. D., of Rochester, Mass. The Middle Ages—The Varieties of the Human Race.
14. Joseph K. Angell. The Origin of Religious Liberty in Rhode Island.
21. Hon. Job Durfee, LL.D. The Ideas of the Narragansetts and Their Kindred in relation to the Supernatural.
28. William Sydney Walker. Inquiry respecting the Aboriginal Inhabitants of America.

1837.

- Jan. 4. Hon. Elisha R. Potter. The Settlement of the French Huguenots in New England. (See R. I. Hist. Tracts, No. 5.)
11. Hon. Alexander H. Everett, LL. D. The History of the American Constitution.
18. Hon. William Lincoln, of Worcester. The Expedition against Nova Scotia in 1755.
25. Hon. Tristam Burges, LL. D. The Maritime Affairs of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.
- Feb. 1. Rev. Alexander Young, D. D., of Boston. The History of the Pequot War.

1838.

- July 19. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. The History of the Rhode Island Historical Society. (See American Quarterly Register, Vol. XI.)

1844.

- Nov. 20. Prof. William Gammell. Address at the Opening of the New Cabinet. (P.)

1846.

- Jan. 6. Hon. Wilkins Updike. The Early History of Narragansett. (See Hist. Narragansett Church.)

1847.

- Jan. 13. Hon. Job Durfee, LL.D. Annual Address—The Rhode Island Idea of Civil Government. (P.)
13. Sarah Helen Whitman. Tribute to Roger Williams—A Poem. Read by Albert G. Greene. (P.)

- April 6. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. The Early Laws of Rhode Island. (See Code of 1647.)

1848.

- Jan. 18. Hon. Rowland G. Hazard, LL. D. Annual Address—The Character and Writings of Chief Justice Durfee. (P.)

1849.

- Feb. 1. Prof. George W. Greene. Annual Address—History and its Writers. (P.)
Oct. 2. William Wilkinson. Personal Recollections of Sullivan's Expedition.
Nov. 2. Moses Brown. Account of the "Great Gale," Sept. 23, 1815. Read, with Comments, by Albert G. Greene. (P.)

1851.

- Feb. 19. Hon. Elisha R. Potter. Aunual Address—Scenes and Events in Rhode Island History. (P.)

1852.

- Feb. 16. Dr. Usher Parsons. Annual Address—The Battle of Lake Erie. (P.)

1853.

- Jan. 17. Hon. Samuel G. Arnold. Annual Address—The Spirit of Rhode Island History. (P.)

1855.

- Feb. 6. Rev. Edward B. Hall, D. D. Annual Address—The Life and Times of John Howland. (P.)
- April 12. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. Canonicus and Miantonomi.
- July 3. Rev. Charles C. Beaman. Notices of the Brothers and Sisters of Governor Hopkins and of Commodore Hopkins and of later members of their Family.
- Nov. 2. Dr. Joseph Mauran. Notes on the Family of Roger Sherman, with Biographical Sketches of Doctors William Bowen and Pardon Bowen, of Providence.
- Dec. 5. Dr. James H. Eldredge. Topographical Notices of East Greenwich, with Medical Sketches. (MS.)

1856.

- Feb. 6. Hon. William P. Sheffield. Early History of Block Island. (P.)
28. Hon. John R. Bartlett. Grades of Civilization among the North American Indians, with Special Notices of Semi-civilized Tribes along the Mexican Borders.
- April 10. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. The Productive Industries of Providence in 1790-91. Illustrated by Statistics furnished Alexander Hamilton by the Providence Mechanics Association.
- July 1. Albert G. Greene. An Address to the People of the State, in behalf of the Rhode Island Historical Society.

1857.

- Feb. 5. Rev. Charles C. Beaman. The First Settlement and Incorporation of the Town of Foster, with Biographical Sketches of Theodore Foster, Dr. Solomon Drown, Obadiah Fenner and others.
- March 5. Prof. William Gummell, LL. D. The Loyalists of the American Revolution.
- April 7. Dr. David King. The Early History of the Island of Rhode Island.
- July 7. Dr. Usher Parsons. Indian Names of Places in Rhode Island. (P.)
- Oct. 6. Dr. Usher Parsons. Testimony as to the Site of the Grave of Roger Williams. (See Allen's Memorial of Roger Williams.)

1857.

- Nov. 5. Henry T. Beckwith. The History of Block Island.
(P.)
- Dec. 2. Prof. James B. Angell, LL. D. German Emigration to America. (See N. A. Review, Jan., 1856.)
30. Dr. Edwin M. Snow. The Cholera in Providence in 1832, 1849 and 1854. (P.)

1858.

- Feb. 2. Hon. Samuel G. Arnold. Dr. John Clarke and the Charter of 1663. (See Hist. R. I.)
- March 10. Hon. Walter R. Danforth. Reminiscences of Providence, especially of Weybosset and Westminster Streets.
- April 6. Henry T. Beckwith. The Joseph Williams Place in Cranston.
- May 5. Henry C. Dorr. Modern New York the Outgrowth of Colonial New York.
- Aug. 11. Horatio Gates Jones. Ebenezer Kinnersley and his connection with Electricity.

1859.

- March 3. George H. Moore, LL. D. The Treason of Major-General Charles Lee. (P.)
9. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. Straw-braiding in America. (See Transactions R. I. Society Domestic Industry, 1858.)
- May 4. Dr. Charles W. Parsons. The Census of 1774, and the Growth of Towns. (See R. I. 6th Registration Report, 1858.)
4. John A. Howland. Notes on the Minutes of the Committee appointed to Act during the Recess of the General Assembly, 1775-76.
- Nov. 3. Sidney S. Rider. The Great Storm of September 23, 1815.
- Dec. 13. Henry H. Clements. Retrospect of Colonial History under the Stuarts.

1860.

- Feb. 4. Amos Perry. Three-quarters of an Hour with Humboldt in the Sans-Souci Palace at Potsdam in June, 1853. (See R. I. Schoolmaster, March, 1860.)

1860.

- Feb. 21. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. Progress of Rhode Island History since the Formation of this Society.
- March 16. Benjamin Cowell. The Battle of Rhode Island, 1778.
- May 18. Zachariah Allen, LL. D. Memorial of Roger Williams with Account of the Burial Place and Disinterment of his Remains. (P.)
- Oct. 2. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. History of Motive Power in Providence.
25. Charles Blake. History of the Drama in Rhode Island. (See Hist. Prov. Stage.)
- Nov. 30. Amos Perry. The Life and Writings of Dr. Albigence Waldo. (See Hist. Mag., April, 1861.)

1861.

- Feb. 4. Zachariah Allen, LL. D. Lafayette's Visit to Providence in 1824. (P.)
- Oct. 1. Sidney S. Rider. History of Paper Money in Rhode Island, 1710-1786. (See R. I. Hist. Traets, 8.)
16. Rev. Joseph Banvard. The History of Pawtucket.

1862.

- April 30. Rev. S. W. Coggeshall, D. D. Early History of the Methodists in Rhode Island.
- Sept. 1. Zachariah Allen, LL. D. The Present Crisis in our National Affairs.
- Oct. 7. Dr. Usher Parsons. Rhode Island Indian Relics and Antiquities. (See Hist. Mag., Feb., 1863.)

1865.

- Jan. 17. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. The French Encampment in Providence in 1782. (See Our French Allies.)
- Nov. 28. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. The Congress of 1765.
28. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. The Providence of My Boyhood.
- Dec. 27. Hon. Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, LL. D. North and South America. (P.)

1866.

- May 1. John Howland. Meeting in a Boston Shipyard in relation to Jay's Treaty, 1794. Written by Mr. Howland at the time of the Treaty. Read by Rev. Edwin M. Stone.

1866.

- Nov. 13. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. The Invasion of Canada, 1775, including Arnold's Expedition through the Wilderness of Maine and Canada to Quebec. (R. I. Coll., Vol. VI.)
- Dec. 5. Prof. J. Lewis Diman, D. D. Sir Henry Vane, and his relations to Rhode Island.

1867.

- Feb. 20. Prof. George W. Greene, LL. D. The Defence of the Delaware (1777), in which Rhode Island men took a prominent part. (See Life of Gen. N. Greene.)
- March 1. Reuben A. Guild, LL. D. The Final Location of Rhode Island College. (See History of Brown University.)
7. Prof. George W. Greene, LL. D. The Importance of Historical Researches and Records.
- April 9. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. Biographical Sketches of Col. Christopher Greene; Maj. Simeon Thayer; Capt. Sammel Ward; Dr. Isaac Senter, and Col. John Topham.
- May 7. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. The Debates in the Federal Congress of 1781-82 on the Collection of Revenue Duties; The part taken in the discussion by the Rhode Island delegation and its consequences.
- Oct. 22. William R. Staples, LL. D. The Establishment of Civil Liberty in America.

1868.

- Feb. 13. Col. Joseph S. Pitman. The Rhode Island Company in the Mexican War and General Scott's Batteries before the City of Mexico. (Jour., Feb. 14-68.)
- April 14. Hon. John R. Bartlett. Pre-historic Man and his Early Appearance in Europe.
- June 2. Amos Perry. The Citadel, Harbor and Ruins of Carthage, illustrated with chart and diagrams.
- Oct. 20. Amos Perry. Archaeological Sketches of the Regency of Tunis. (See Carthage and Tunis.)
- Dec. 8. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. Thomas A. Tefft, as a Monetarian.

1869.

- Feb. 9. Hon. William R. Staples, LL. D. The Liberty Tree of Providence. Read by Edwin M. Stone.
- April 6. Hon. Thomas Durfee, LL. D. The Haunted Ruin. A Poem. (See Village Picnic, etc.)
- June 1. Hon. Samuel G. Arnold. Our Honored Dead—Albert G. Greene, William R. Staples and Usher Parsons. (P.)
- Oct. 12. Rev. Frederic Denison. The Aborigines of Westerly. A Poem.
- Nov. 2. Prof. Romeo Elton, D. D. The Etymology and Philosophy of Surnames.
- Dec. 17. Dr. Charles W. Parsons. Lord Bellomont and Father Rasle in 1699. (Mag. Am. Hist., April, 1885.)

1870.

- Feb. 1. Hon. Francis Brimley. The Life of Nathaniel Byfield, of Bristol.
23. Henry C. Dorr. Planting and Growth of Providence.
- Dec. 20. Henry C. Dorr. Same subject.

1871.

- Feb. 13. Hon. Francis Brimley. The Life of Matthew Cradock, the first Governor of the Massachusetts Bay Company.
- March 19. Henry C. Dorr. The Planting and Growth of Providence.
- Nov. 8. Rev. Thomas T. Stone, D. D. Roger Williams, the Prophetic Legislator. (P.)

1872.

- July 19. Prof. J. Lewis Diman, D.D. Introductory Address at the Semi-centennial Anniversary of this Society. (Proc.)
19. Zachariah Allen, LL. D., Acting President. Historical Address. (Proc.)
19. Henry C. Whitaker. The Charm of Story. A Poem. (Proc.)
- Dec. 17. J. Erastus Lester. The Yosemite Valley. (P.)

1873.

- Feb. 11. Rev. Thomas T. Stone, D. D. George Fox, the Seer of the Inner Light.
- May 27. William A. Mowry, Ph. D. The Territorial Expansion of the United States.

1874.

- Jan. 9. Robert Sherman. The Rebellion of 1842. (See Jour. of Jan. 10-74.)
- Feb. 3. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. The History of the Rhode Island Institute of Instruction. (P. & Proc.)
24. Amos Perry. The Life of Solomon Drowne. From a Sketch by William Drowne. (MS.)
- March 10. Rev. S. W. Coggeshall, D. D. The Coggeshall Family traced from the period of the Crusades, with a particular account of Joshua Coggeshall, an eminent Quaker of Portsmouth, R. I.
17. William J. Miller. The Wampanoag Indians. (P.)
- April 7. Amos Perry. The Rhode Island Society of the Cincinnati. (Proc., 74-75.)
21. Henry C. Dorr. The Early Town Meetings of Providence. (P.)
- May 5. William A. Mowry, Ph. D. Who Invented the First Steamboat? (P.)
19. Hon. Samuel G. Arnold. Exploits of a Rhode Island Privateer (Capt. Simeon Potter). See Overland Monthly, April, 1874.
- Oct. 6. Hon. Simon Henry Greene. A Brief Sketch of his Branch of the Greene Family, with a Notice of the Life and Character of the late John L. Hughes.
- Nov. 10. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. Thomas A. Tefft, the Deviser of an International Currency. (See Stone's Life of Tefft.)
- Dec. 8. Erastus Richardson. A Providence Plantation in Woonsocket and Vicinity. (See Hist. Woonsocket.)

1875.

- Feb. 16. Dr. Henry E. Turner. The Importance of Collecting, Classifying and Arranging the Genealogical Statistics of the State. (Proc.)
- March 2. Thomas C. Amory. The Military Movements in Rhode Island in 1778.
16. William J. Miller. Philip, the Wampanoag Chieftain. (P.)
- April 6. Frank B. Butts. The Combat of the Merrimac with the Monitor, and the Wreck of the latter. (P.)

1875.

- April 6. Richard M. Sherman. Account of Events that occurred on his Grandfather's farm on the day of the Battle of Rhode Island, Aug. 29, 1778.
13. Zachariah Allen, LL. D. The Life and Services of Senator James Burrill. (Proc.)
13. William Jones Hoppin, LL. D. A Biographical Sketch of Gov. William Jones. Read by the Secretary. (Proc.)
- May 10. Hon. Abraham Payne. Reminiscences of the Providence Bar. (See Prov. Bar.)
- June 21. Hon. Samuel G. Arnold. Address as President of the Society at a Meeting at Mount Hope on the Bicentenary of the Breaking Out of King Philip's War. (Jour., June 22.)
21. Rev. Henry M. Dexter, D. D. The Repulsive Character of King Philip. (Jour., June 22.)
21. Prof. J. Lewis Diman, D. D. Some of the Results of King Philip's War. (Jour., June 22.)
- July 6. John A. Howland. The Election of a Negro as Warden of the Third Ward of Providence, reputed to be the first African elected by popular vote to a Civil Office in the United States. (MS. See Scrap Book, No. 1.)
- Oct. 5. Hon. Henry L. Greene. The Original Settlers of Warwick. (MS.)
- Nov. 9. Col. John Ward. The Life and Services of Col. Samuel Ward. (P.)
23. Prof. J. Lewis Diman, D. D. Religion in America during the last Century. (See N. A. Review, Jan., 1876.)
30. Hon. Henry B. Anthony. Characteristics and Sentiments of the Leading Men of the 36th Congress. (A. D. 1859-61.)
- Dec. 21. Henry C. Dorr. The Town Records of Providence in the Seventeenth Century. (P.)

1876.

- Jan. 10. Hon. Abraham Payne. Reminiscences of Rhode Island Lawyers. (Proc.)

1876.

- Jan. 18. Mrs. Caroline Gallup Read. Historical Sketch of the Family of Capt. John Gallup, slain in the Great Swamp Fight, Dec. 19, 1675, with a Copy of Col. Sylvanus Reed's Orderly Book, 1778. Read by Vice-President Allen. (MS.)
- Feb. 1. Rev. Carlton A. Staples. The Journal and Character of Rev. Enos Hitchcock, D. D., a chaplain in the Continental Army.
15. George C. Mason. Nicholas Easton vs. The City of Newport. (Coll., Vol. VII.)
29. Hon. William P. Sheffield. The History of Block Island. (P.)
- March 14. William J. Hoppin, LL. D. The Continental frigate Providence. (Proc.)
28. William J. Miller. The Wampanoag Indians. (P.)
- April 4. Amos Perry. History of the Providence Marine Society. (Proc.)
10. Zachariah Allen, LL. D. Bi-centenary of the Burning of Providence in 1676, and a Defence of the Rhode Island System of Treating the Indians. (P.)
- Aug. 24. Hon. Samuel G. Arnold. Address on the 200th Anniversary of the Death of King Philip at Mt. Hope.
24. William J. Miller. Facts and Incidents connected with the Death of Philip. (Proc.)
- Oct. 3. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. General Sullivan's Brigade Orderly Book at Cambridge in 1775.
24. William A. Mowry, Ph. D. The Cherokee Indians.
- Nov. 21. Prof. J. Lewis Diman, D. D. The Relation of the Ottoman Empire to European Politics.
- Dec. 5. Hon. Samuel G. Arnold. Historical Sketch of Middletown, R. I. (P.)
19. Col. John Ward. Life and Services of Gov. Samuel Ward. (P.)

1877.

- Jan. 2. Rev. Edwin M. Stone. Rochambeau's Army. (See Our French Allies.)
30. Rev. Frederic Denison. Sketch of the History of Westerly. (See Hist. Westerly.)

1877.

- Feb. 13. Hon. John R. Bartlett. Arctic Explorations.
 27. Dr. Henry E. Turner. The Greenes of Warwick in Colonial History. (P.)
- March 13. Hon. Abraham Payne. Reminiscences of the Dorr Rebellion.
 20. Hon. George A. Brayton, LL. D. The Early Career of Samuel Gorton. (P.)
 27. Reuben A. Guild, LL. D. History of the Library of Brown University.
- April 10. Henry C. Dorr. The Ancient Highways of Providence. (P.)
 24. George C. Mason. Early Printing in Newport, and The Frigate General Greene. (Two papers.)
- Oct. 16. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. Contributions History has Received from Certain Physical Sciences. (See Jour., Oct. 17.)
 30. Col. Thomas W. Higginson. A Congressman (William Ellery) on Horseback.
- Nov. 13. Prof. Albert Harkness, LL. D. Modern Philological Research and its Results.
 27. Hon. Richard A. Wheeler. Historical Sketch of the Pequot Indians. (P.)
- Dec. 11. Paul C. Sinding. The Religious Life and Customs that early prevailed in Europe.
 19. Col. John Ward. The Continental Congress before the Declaration of Independence. (See Mag. Am. Hist., April, 1878.)

1878.

- Jan. 22. Rt. Rev. Thomas M. Clark, D. D., LL. D. The Incas of Peru, with illustrations.
- Feb. 5. General Tevfik of Constantinople; Principles and Customs in the Ottoman Empire. (P.)
 19. Dr. Henry E. Turner. The Life and Services of William Coddington. (P.)
 19. Charles Gorton. The Soapstone Quarries in Johnston.
- March 5. Hon. Abraham Payne. The Blue-Laws of Connecticut.
 19. Dr. Charles W. Parsons. Three-hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of Dr. William Harvey.

1878.

- April 16. Dr. David King. Sketch of the Early History of Newport.
30. Maj. Asa Bird Gardiner, LL. D. The Rhode Island Line in the Continental Army, and its Society of Cincinnati. (P.)
- Nov. 5. Thomas C. Amory. Some of the Ancient Historic Houses in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
19. George C. Mason. Gilbert Stuart, the Painter. (See Life of Stuart.)
- Dec. 3. Hon. John R. Bartlett. The Aryan Race, its Languages, Literature and Migrations.
17. Henry C. Dorr. The Relations of the Providence Plantations with neighboring Tribes of Indians.
31. Prof. C. W. Ernst. Afghanistan and its War with Great Britain.

1879.

- Jan. 28. Hon. Abraham Payne. The Life and Times of Jonathan Edwards.
- Feb. 11. Col. John Ward. Siege of Harper's Ferry by Stonewall Jackson, in 1862.
25. Dr. Henry E. Turner. Jeremiah Clarke and his Descendants.
- March 11. John Austin Stevens. The French in Rhode Island during the Revolutionary War. (See Mag. Am. Hist., July, 1879.)
- May 20. Rev. George E. Ellis, D. D. The Present Indian Question with the United States Government. (See Ellis' "The Red Man and the White Man in North America.")
- Oct. 10. Hon. Isaac N. Arnold. Who led the American Troops to Victory in the Northern Campaign in 1777? (See Life of B. Arnold.)
- Nov. 5. Gen. Horatio Rogers. La Corne St. Lue, the Leader of Burgoyne's Indians. (Hadden's Journal.)
19. Prof. John L. Lincoln. Tacitus, the Historian.
- Dec. 4. Zachariah Allen, LL. D. The Conditions of Life, Habits and Customs of the Indians, and their Treatment by the First Settlers. (P.)

1879.

- Dec. 16. Hon. William D. Brayton. The Oswego Expedition of 1783.
 31. William B. Weeden. The Rise of Personal Property. (See Social Laws of Labor.)

1880.

- Jan. 30. Albert R. Cooke. The Life and Services of Governor Nicholas Cooke.
 Feb. 10. Reuben A. Guild, LL. D. The Life and Services of Chaplain Hezekiah Smith, D. D. (See Guild's Life of Smith.)
 24. Dr. Henry E. Turner. The Settlers of Aquidneck, and their Agency in Promoting Liberal Ideas. (P.)
 March 9. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. Asylum and Extradition among Nations. (See Jour., March 10.)
 23. Gen. James Grant Wilson. The Life and Public Services of Commodore Isaac Hull, and an Account of the frigate Constitution.
 April 20. Hon. Abraham Payne. Presidential Elections.
 May 4. Rev. David H. Greer, D. D. Socialism: its Aims, Methods and Results.
 Oct. 19. Sidney S. Rider. The Authorship of the first Civil Compact of the Providence Plantations.
 Nov. 4. William A. Mowry, Ph. D. Our Possessions in Oregon.
 16. Stephen B. Miller. The Settlement of the City of Hudson, N. Y., by citizens of Providence.
 Dec. 2. Col. John Ward. The Part taken by Rhode Island during the Period of the "Stamp Act."
 28. Hon. Abraham Payne. Prudence Crandall and her School at Canterbury, Ct.

1881.

- Jan. 26. William S. Liscomb. Loss and Recovery of the Works of the Greek and Latin Authors. (See Atlantic Monthly, 1881.)
 Feb. 8. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. The Monroe Doctrine: its Origin and History.
 22. Rowland Hazard. The Credit Mobilier in America. (P.)
 March 8. William P. Sheffield, Jr. The Narragansett Sachems. (P.)

1881.

- March 22. Dr. Charles W. Parsons. The Medical School, formerly existing in Brown University, its Professors and Graduates. (R. I. Hist. Tracts, 12.)
- April 2. Moses Coit Tyler, D. D. Traits of American Literature during the Period of the Revolution.
19. Zachariah Allen, LL.D. The Suffrage Movement in Rhode Island, which resulted in the Dorr War.
- May 3. Rev. John C. Stockbridge, D. D. Reception in England of the News of the Defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown, 1781. (Mag. Am. Hist.)
- Nov. 15. Claudius B. Farnsworth. The Burial Grounds of Rhode Island.
29. Hon. Abraham Payne. The Separatists of Windham County, Ct.
- Dec. 12. Zachariah Allen, LL. D. Advent, Location and Dispersion of the Huguenot Settlers in Rhode Island.
20. Henry C. Dorr. Hindrances to the Early Growth and Development of Providence. (R. I. Hist. Tracts, 15.)

1882.

- Jan. 24. Dr. Henry E. Turner. The Life and Services of Gov. Samuel Cranston. (See Nar. Hist. Reg. VII. 3, 4.)
- Feb. 7. Hon. William P. Sliffield. Rhode Island Privateers and Privateersmen. (P.)
21. Amos Perry. A Movement to secure a Public Park in Providence on the Camping Ground of Count Rochambeau's Army.
- March 7. Reuben A. Guild, LL. D. The First Commencement of Rhode Island College at Warren, September, 1769. (R. I. Coll., Vol. VII.)
21. Prof. William Gammell, LL.D. Memorial Minute recorded in honor of the late President Zachariah Allen, LL. D.
21. William W. Hoppin. Tribute to the Memory of President Allen.
21. Rt. Rev. Thomas M. Clark, D. D., LL. D., and others, on the same occasion. (See Memorial of Zachariah Allen, LL. D.)

1882.

- April 4. Rt. Rev. Thomas M. Clark, D. D., LL. D. William Wheelwright, the Great South American Benefactor.
 18. Royal C. Taft. Some Notes on the Introduction of Woolen Manufacture into the United States. (P.)
- Oct. 31. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. The Confederation Period of the Republic. (Jour., Nov. 1.)
- Nov. 14. Rev. Daniel Goodwin. The Life of Rev. William Smith, D. D., of Scotland, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Wickford, and of Trinity Church, Newport.
 21. Rev. George E. Ellis, D. D. The Origin and Method of History.
- Dec. 12. Alexander Farnum. The Public Life and Political Services of Alexander Hamilton.

1883.

- Jan. 23. William E. Foster. Stephen Hopkins. (R. I. Hist. Tracts, 19.)
- Feb. 6. Dr. Charles W. Parsons. Early Votaries of Natural Science in Rhode Island. (Coll., Vol. VII.)
 20. Justin Winsor, LL. D. Historical Relations of Latitude and Longitude.
- March 6. Edwin C. Larned. The Chicago Fire and its Relief Work.
 20. Ex-Gov. Elisha Dyer. Sketch of the History of the Providence Fire Department. (MS.)
- July 3. William M. Bailey. The Jacob Whitman Estate and Turk's Head. (MS.)
 3. Henry T. Drowne. Sketch of the Life of Stephen Whitney Phenix. (P.)
- Nov. 7. Prof. Asa Bird Gardiner, LL. D. The Rise and the Decline of the Society of the Cincinnati of France under Louis XVI.
- Nov. 27. William B. Weeden. Indian Money as a Factor in New England Civilization. (See Johns Hopkins Univ. Studies, 1884.)
- Dec. 11. George C. Mason, Jr. Queen Anne, or Free Classic Architecture. (See Lippincott's Mag., Nov., '85.)

1884.

- Jan. 22. William E. Foster. Rhode Island Town Governments in the 17th Century. (See Johns Hopkins Univ. Studies, Vol. IV.)
- Feb. 5. Prof. John L. Lincoln, LL. D. The Emperor Marcus Aurelius.
19. J. Erastus Lester. The West Side of Providence: its Physical Features, and the Causes which led to its Settlement and Growth. (Jour.)
- March 4. William S. Liseomb. Destruction of the Works of Ancient Art. (See Atlantic Monthly, 1885.)
18. Rev. William Elliot Griffis, D. D. Matthew Calbraith Perry, the Typical American Naval Officer. (P.)
- April 15. William A. Mowry, Ph. D. The Supreme Moment in the History of North America: the Battle of Quebec, 1759.
- July 1. Moses B. I. Goddard. The Construction and the Career of the First Ship "Ann and Hope," of Providence.
- Oct. 7. Amos Perry. Some New England Almanacs. (P.)
- Nov. 18. Prof. Franklin B. Dexter. Ezra Stiles and his Diary.
- Dec. 2. William Matthews, LL. D. William Wirt.
16. Hon. John H. Stiness. The Return of Roger Williams with the First Charter of the Colony in 1644. (P.)
16. Gen. Horatio Rogers. The Importance of the Charter of 1643-4. (P.)
16. Rev. Frederic Denison. Truth's Toil and Triumph. A Poem. (P.)
30. Dr. Charles H. Fisher. Numismatics as a Branch of History.
30. Charles Gorton. Illustrations of the same subject.

1885.

- Jan. 27. Prof. Albert Harkness, LL. D. Athens in the Age of Pericles. Illustrated.
- Feb. 10. Mrs. Martha J. Lamb. The Framers of the Constitution of the United States. (Mag. Am. Hist, April, 1885.)
24. Rev. James M. Taylor. The Influence of the Crusades in European History.

1885.

- March 16. Rev. Carleton A. Staples. The Social and Religious Life of a New England Town (Lexington, Mass.,) 125 Years Ago.
24. Hon. Thomas Durfee, LL. D. The Transcendental Movement in New England.
- April 21. Prof. Elisha B. Andrews, D. D. The Founding of the English State. (Andover Review.)
- Nov. 3. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. The Huguenots and the Edict of Nantes. (P.)
17. Miss Esther Bernon Carpenter. Huguenot Influence in Rhode Island. (Proc.)
- Dec. 1. Amasa M. Eaton. The French Spoliation Claims and Rhode Island Claimants. (P.)
15. Prof. C. W. Ernst. The Services of Henry Whentton in International Law and Diplomacy.
15. Hon. Abraham Payne. The Life and Character of Henry Wheaton.
29. George C. Mason, Jr. Apprenticeship and the Manual Training System. (Jour., Dec. 30, 1885.)

1886.

- Jan. 26. Dr. Charles W. Parsons. Town Names in Rhode Island. (Proc., 86-7.)
26. Edward Field, Jr. Fortifications In and Around Providence.
- Feb. 9. Rev. William F. B. Jackson. The Trial of Anne Hutchinson.
23. William Matthews, LL. D. The Battle of Waterloo, with illustrations.
- March 9. James Burdick. Reminiscences of California in 1849.
23. Rev. James P. Root. The Public Service of Captain Arthur Fenner of Colonial Times. (P.)
23. Charles H. Denison. The History and Romance of the South County.
- April 6. Rev. James P. Root. The Home Life of Captain Arthur Fenner. (P.)
6. John A. Howland. The Date of Passing the Sentence of Banishment on Roger Williams. (Proc., 1886-87.)

1886.

- April 20. Rev. W. R. Bagnall. The Textile Industries of the United States prior to 1800.
- July 6. John O. Austin. Some Phases of Genealogical Study.
6. Rev. Crawford Nightingale. A Sketch of the Nightingale Family.
6. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. The Opening of the Grave of Rev. William Blackstone, May 6, 1886.
- Oct. 5. Dr. Charles W. Parsons. Thomas Willett, the First Mayor of New York. (Mag. Am. Hist., March, 1887.)
5. Miss Esther Bermon Carpenter. What are the Willett Papers, and Where was the Home of Miantonomi? (Jour., Oct. 6, 1886.)
- Nov. 2. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. The Life and Services of the late John R. Bartlett. (P.)
16. Hon. John Winslow. The Trial of the Rhode Island Judges: an Episode Touching Currency and Constitutional Law. (P.)
30. Hon. John D. Washburn. The Unpublished Autobiography of President Increase Mather, Reviewed in the Light of the Recent Commemoration of Harvard University.
- Dec. 14. Claudius B. Farnsworth. The Legislation of the Roman Emperors Respecting the Church.
28. Prof. Elisha B. Andrews, D. D. Sir Henry Maine on the Prospects of Popular Government. (See Baptist Review.)

1887.

- Jan. 25. Dr. Franklin C. Clark. Progress of Sanitary Science in Rhode Island.
- Feb. 8. Rev. Samuel L. Caldwell, D. D. Modern Historians.
22. Remsen A. Guild, LL. D. Roger Williams: His Birth, Parentage and Education in the Light of Recent Investigations.
- March 8. Ray Greene Huling. Samuel Hubbard, of Newport, 1610-1689. (P.)
22. Prof. Stephen F. Peckham. Petroleum in its Historical Relations to Modern Civilization.

1887.

- April 5. Ex-Gov. Elisha Dyer. Elijah Ormsbee's First Steam-boat, and David Grieve's First Screw Propeller. (MS.)
19. Rev. Thomas R. Slicer. The Emperor Julian and the Pagan Afterglow.
- July 5. Ex-Gov. Elisha Dyer. Use of Steam Power in Rhode Island, from 1663 to 1781. (MS.)
- Oct. 4. William D. Ely. The Date of the Settlement of Warwick Verified and Determined, with Notices of Samuel Gorton and Others. (P. and Proc.)
- Nov. 1. Prof. Elisha B. Andrews, D. D. The Constitutional Convention of 1787. (P.)
15. Justin Winsor, LL. D. Diplomatic Wiles and Blunders connected with the Northeastern Boundary Controversy.
29. William B. Weeden. The Early African Slave Trade in New England. (See Proceedings Am. Antq. Soc'y, Oct., 1887.)
- Dec. 13. Howard W. Preston. The French Colonial Charters compared with the English.
27. William A. Mowry, Ph. D. Franklin's Diplomacy and its Results.

1888.

- Jan. 27. Levi W. Russell. Forestry, with Special Reference to Rhode Island.
- Feb. 7. Prof. Alpheus S. Packard, Ph. D., and Prof. Stephen F. Peckham. Advantages to be Derived from a Topographical and Geological Survey of the State.
21. Gen. Horatio Rogers. The Diary of the Rev. John Comer, kept mostly at Newport in the early part of the last century.
- March 6. Hon. James Phinney Baxter. Early Voyages to America. (P.)
20. James Burdick. The Mining Excitement on the Frazer River, and the Explorer's Return to his Rhode Island Home.
- April 3. D. Berkeley Updike. The Burial Place of Mrs. Hannah Gardiner McSparran near St. Margaret's Church, London, with a plat of the ground. (MS.)

1888.

- April 3. James H. Olney. The Life of Thomas Olney, an Early Proprietor of Providence. (See Olney Genealogy.)
17. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. Rhode Island Refusing the Constitution.
- July 3. Henry T. Drowne. Sketch of the Society of the Cincinnati.
- Oct. 2. Isaac P. Noyes. Weather Maps and the Weather Bureau. (P.)
30. Prof. William Gammell, LL. D. The Life of Rowland Gibson Hazard, LL. D. (P.)
30. Ezekiel G. Robinson, D. D. The Philosophical Writings of Rowland Gibson Hazard, LL. D. (P.)
- Nov. 13. William E. Foster. The Rhode Island Charter of 1663.
27. Prof. J. Franklin Jameson, Ph. D. The Records of the Virginia Company.
- Dec. 11. Prof. Edward P. Smith, Ph. D., of Worcester. The Movement for a Second Constitutional Convention in 1788. (See Essays in the Constitutional Hist. U. S.)
28. Rev. Edward Everett Hale, D. D. The Naval History of the American Revolution. (See Am. Antiq. Soc. Proc.)

1889.

- Jan. 22. William Warner Hoppin, Jr. The Peace Conference of 1861 at Washington.
- Feb. 5. Hon. William P. Sheffield. The Early Settlement of Rhode Island and the Causes which led thereto.
19. Rev. Samuel Snelling. William Blackstone and His Times.
- March 5. Ray Greene Huling. The Rhode Island Emigration to Nova Scotia. (P.)
19. Commander John R. Bartlett, U. S. Navy. The Physical Geography of the Sea.
- April 9. Gen. Horatio Rogers.
Rev. Samuel L. Caldwell, D. D. } Commemoration
Prof. John L. Lincoln, LL. D. } of
Rev. James G. Vose, D. D. } President Gammell.
(Jour., April 10.)

1889.

- April 16. Prof. John L. Lincoln, LL. D. The Historian Leopold von Ranké.
23. George Grafton Wilson, Ph. D. The Town Government of Providence, 1636-1700. (P.)
30. Hon. George M. Carpenter. "Washington, the Founder of the Nation." (Jour., May 2, 1889, and MS. in Archives.)
- May 14. Hon. William Jones Hoppin, LL. D. Some Curiosities of Historic Portraiture.
- July 2. Amos Perry. Origin, Early History, and a List of Lectures and Papers read before the Society. (Proc., 1889-90.)
- Oct. 1. Dr. James O. Whitney. The Location of Peirce's Fight, March 26, 1676. (P.)
29. Prof. James M. Hoppin, D. D. "An Old English Chronicle."
- Nov. 12. Rev. George H. Clark, D. D. Oliver Cromwell.
26. Prof. J. Franklin Jameson, Ph. D. The Development of Historical Writing in Modern Europe.
- Dec. 10. John C. Pegram. The United States Naval School and its Removal to Newport in 1861.
31. Amasa M. Eaton. The Legal Condition of Woman in Rhode Island. (Jour., Jan. 1.)







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